

COPY

Approved For Release 2003/04/02 : CIA-RDP90-00610R000100020020-3

CHARLES S. CHESTON
1421 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia

June 2, 1947

The Honorable Chan Gurney, Chairman
Senate Armed Forces Committee
The Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Gurney:

You will recall I called on you two weeks ago today to discuss that section of the Unification Bill dealing with the Central Intelligence Agency. During the war I served as Assistant Director to General Donovan, the Director of OSS. I left with you a memorandum which I prepared after receiving a letter from you, asking if I would appear before your Committee.

To refresh your memory the three points that I raised with you at the time of our meeting two weeks were:

1. That the Central Intelligence Agency should be headed by a civilian;
2. That the Agency should have its own independent budget;
3. That the Director should report to an individual, viz., a Secretary of Defense, and not to a Committee.

I also discussed this matter with Senator Saltonstall, and I have had several talks with the Senator since my meeting with you. On Memorial Day Admiral Hillenkoetter came to Philadelphia to see me to get my views on the subject. I believe he was directed to do this by either you or Senator Saltonstall, for which I am grateful as I feel we had a very satisfactory meeting of minds. I am happy to report that Admiral Hillenkoetter is in entire accord with the three main points that I raised with you, and referred to above.

He asked if I had any objection to a Director being appointed who was a Naval officer or an Army officer, provided that upon accepting the appointment, such officer would resign from the service and forego all his rights. I told him that I had no objection whatsoever, provided that the officer appointed would definitely resign for all time from the service, and would look upon it as a career job and not as a stepping-stone or another tour of duty.

Approved For Release 2003/04/02 : CIA-RDP90-00610R000100020020-3